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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yamazaki, et al.

Art Unit : 1733

Serial No. : 09/760,499

Examiner : John L. Goff

Filed : January 11, 2001

Title : DISPLAY DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2003

Claims 1-43 are pending. Claims 7-15, 20, 25, 31, 35, and 43 are currently withdrawn from consideration.

In the Office Action of September 3, 2003, claims 1-6, 16-19, 21-24, 26-30, 32-34 and 36-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,821,138 to Yamazaki (Yamazaki '138) in view of admitted prior art and U.S. Patent No. 5,757,456 to Yamazaki (Yamazaki '456).

In supporting the above-listed rejections, the Office Action states at page 5 that Yamazaki '138, as modified by admitted prior art, discloses a method for forming an EL device (display device) wherein the device (allegedly) must include a light emitting element comprising an anode, EL material, and cathode. The Office Action further states that the light emitting element "... must be completed prior to bonding the second substrate, as this is when the anode layer is formed, which is before peeling the first substrate" (see Office Action, page 5, lines 1-7).

However, independent claim 1 recites:

A method of manufacturing a display device, comprising:
forming a peeling layer on a first substrate;
forming an insulating layer on said peeling layer;
forming a light emitting element on said insulating layer;
bonding a second substrate over said light emitting element
by using a first adhesive;
exposing the peeling layer to a gas containing halogen
fluoride after bonding said second substrate to thereby remove said
peeling layer and the first substrate; and
bonding a third substrate to said insulating layer by using a
second adhesive.